



State of Connecticut  
SENATE

SENATOR MICHAEL A. McLACHLAN  
TWENTY-FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT

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GENERAL BONDING SUB COMMITTEE

MEMBER  
FINANCE, REVENUE, & BONDING COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

February 19, 2015

Dear Senator Leone, Representative Baram, and Distinguished Members of the General Law Committee,

I am State Senator Michael McLachlan, and I am here to testify in favor of Senate Bill 386, *An Act Prohibiting The Sale Of Powdered Alcohol*. This legislation would ban the sale of Palcohol, or powdered alcohol in the state.

Palcohol is still waiting for federal approval, but if it is approved, there are numerous risks associated with the product. Several states, Alaska, California, Delaware, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Vermont have already banned Palcohol.

Palcohol may come in a variety of favors, where each serving is equivalent to one shot of liquor. Consumers would add 5 ounces of water to each Palcohol pouch, seal it, and shake it for 30 seconds to create an alcoholic drink.

There are still many unknowns about this product. A real fear is that alcohol in powdered form makes it more readily available to teens and adults under the age of 21. There is already a problem in our society with underage drinking. Why should we allow a product in our state that will potentially increase underage drinking or alcohol poisoning?

Another potential risk that this product proposes is consumers snorting or inhaling the powder.

There are too many question marks associated with this product, and until further research is done, it should be banned.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Michael A. McLachlan  
State Senator - 24<sup>th</sup> District